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MISSOURI VALLEY COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT.

Closing Exercises of the Class of 1900, the Finale of the Collegiate Year, Witnessed By Large Audience Thursday Morning.

DR. MATTHEW HUGHES' CLASS ORATION

The Kansas City Speaker Pleases a Large Audience in His Address to the Seniors.—Announcements of Faculty Changes by Dr. Black in His Address.

Commencement this year does not end college work for Missouri Valley, which has adopted the continuous sessions plan, now in practice in the best schools of the East, but this change has not in the least lessened the importance of the annual commencement either as relates to the students themselves or to the outside public. The exercises of this May, have never been excelled in point of excellence, nor have the Marshall friends and supporters ever accorded the closing numbers a more appreciative and liberal attendance.

Thursday morning, the Commencement of the College, was held in the Chapel, the main feature of which, was an address by Reverend Matthew S. Hughes, D. D. of Kansas City, a successor of Dr. Quayle, which captivated his audience from the start and held them keenly interested and charmed throughout. The speaker had missed the train from Kansas City the night before, coming down at 10.40 that morning. The first part of the program had been renounced, the exercises beginning at 10 o'clock, just as Rev. Hughes stepped upon the platform.

Not at all disconcerted by the hurried ride from the station, he at once announced his subject, "The Art of Arts" and proceeded to deliver a lecture truly lofty in thought as well as rhetorical expression, which was in part: The "Art of Arts" is the art of living an art, in which we all, at first thought, are prone to think ourselves proficient but in which in reality, but few could take the "Master's Degree." As God created in the beginning a world not complete, but in which there was yet left something for man to do, so He creates our bodies, full of talents and capacities but in our own hands he places the responsibility of developing, of completing these talents and capacities. Centuries ago Shakespeare, in a freak of fancy, made Puck say "I'll put a band around the world in forty minutes."

To-day we have no Shakespere but thinking, practical men can flash a message round the world almost in the heat of a pulse. We are told that this is an age devoid of genius and fire. At the beginning of this century Tennyson pictured in his "Princess" the dream of a woman, a dream impossible of fulfillment in the light of things then existing. A quarter of a century has not passed since Tennyson "Crossed the Bar" and that dream is more than fulfilled in the number of women who are yearly graduated from our highest seats of learning. If we have plain practical men enough to carry out the dreams of the geniuses of the past, we can for a while at least, get along without the fire and genius. The blind Grecian poet sang in his *Odyssey* an example of faithful womanhood, but the Greeks never took Penelope down from her literary pedestal; it remained for the less cultured perhaps, but more sincere races of the West to bring Penelope into the daily domestic life.

Dr. Hughes concluded by remarking that it would be impossible for a preacher to clone a lecture without a sermon and therefore as the one example of a perfect Master of the "Art of Living" he would cite us to the Christ who was in all things perfect.

Dr. Black in his address, announced the action of the board of trustees in relation to faculty changes, the resignation of Professor R. J. Peters of the chair of English and the election of R. T. Kerlin of Liberty, Mo., to succeed him; also the leave of absence granted Miss Joan C. Orr.

Mr. Orestes C. Gross was presented a check for \$15, the English History prize, having been awarded the honor by the committee of judges over five other contestants.

CLASS OF 1900.

The graduates of this year were:

Misses:

Perle De Vol,
Virginia Yeagle
Daisy Ballentine.

Nelle Dohyns,
Cordelia Clemmens,
Nelle Mason.

Messrs.:

H. B. Pyle,
R. R. Sherman,
R. H. Mitchell,
C. F. Tanner,
J. R. Kincheloe,
H. L. Jones,

C. A. Galloway,
H. A. Mitchell,
R. D. Adams,
W. A. McCammon,
A. F. Zeigle,
W. H. Zeigle.

COMMENCEMENT CONCERT.

The annual commencement concert of the School of Music was held Wednesday evening, being one of the most entertaining and at the same time high-class musicales ever given by this department. It should prove a source of congratulation to the instructor, in whose charge and training the pupils performing have developed their talents in the rendition of classical music, that so perfect a demonstration of their complete mastery of the art, might be witnessed by an appreciative audience.

There were two graduates: Miss Corabelle Adams in the vocal department and Miss Alma May Siler in the piano department, both of whom have bright prospects for musical careers, and it is to be hoped, as expressed in Dr. Black's address, when presenting them diplomata, that their talents may be further cultivated and consecrated in that noble work, which lies within the realm of music, as a transmitter of the feelings of the soul.

The "Turkish March from the Ruins of Athens," by Misses Alma Siler upon 1st Piano and Louise Woodbridge upon second was the opening number, and its martial music enthused the audience.

Miss Cora Adams then rendered a soprano solo by Bellini, which was no less difficult in its variations, than it was pleasingly sung. Miss Lillie Page played a solo entitled, "Valse Caprice Op 116 which was full of gushing music and well received.

Miss Clara Brown's sweet contralto voice won quite an encore in three light little songs rendered consecutively. Miss Brown is naturally gifted in a most expressive voice and her cultivation of this has made her singing a delight to any audience.

The next number a "Concert in D. Minor" by Mozart was an excellent piano solo by Miss Louise Woodbridge, one of Prof. Place's most promising pupils.

The "Inflammatus" from Rossini's "Stabat Mater" given by Miss Adams, with a double quartet consisting of Misses Tucker, Mason, Mackey, Davis and Messrs Adams, Perry and Bird, was enthusiastically encored and grand in its operatic effect. Miss Siler distinguished herself in a piano solo, as a most graceful performer, of high conceptions of musical effects, whose execution has been thoroughly cultivated.

The last number "Overture to Semiramide" was very beautiful, being first played on two pianos by Misses Siler and Woodbridge, Page and Black, and then with the addition of the pipe organ played by Miss Lavinia Clemmens.